

Momental Ellipsoid or Ellipsoid of inertia

Since moment of inertia of a system of particles about any line l is

$$I_l = \lambda^2 I_{xx} + \mu^2 I_{yy} + \nu^2 I_{zz} + 2\lambda\mu I_{xy} + 2\lambda\nu I_{xz} + 2\mu\nu I_{yz}$$

If we use $\lambda = c \cos \alpha = \frac{x}{r}$

$$\mu = c \sin \beta = \frac{y}{r} \quad \text{and} \quad \nu = c \sin \gamma = \frac{z}{r}$$

into (1), we get

$$I_l = \frac{x^2}{r^2} I_{xx} + \frac{y^2}{r^2} I_{yy} + \frac{z^2}{r^2} I_{zz} + 2 \frac{x}{r} \frac{y}{r} I_{xy} + 2 \frac{x}{r} \frac{z}{r} I_{xz} + 2 \frac{y}{r} \frac{z}{r} I_{yz}$$

which gives

$$I_{xx} x^2 + I_{yy} y^2 + I_{zz} z^2 + 2 I_{xy} xy + 2 I_{xz} xz + 2 I_{yz} yz = r^2 I_l$$

$$I_{xx} x^2 + I_{yy} y^2 + I_{zz} z^2 + 2 I_{xy} xy + 2 I_{xz} xz + 2 I_{yz} yz = r^2 I_l$$

where $r^2 I_l = c$ (say)

This eq. (2) represents equation of an ellipsoid, known as momental ellipsoid or ellipsoid of moment of inertia

Answer

§ Perpendicular axes Theorem =

Moment of inertia of a plane rigid body about an axis perpendicular to the body is equal to the sum of the moments of inertia about two mutually perpendicular axes lying in the plane of the body and intersecting at a common point with the given axis.

If we choose plane rigid by xy -plane and z -axis as perpendicular to the rigid body, then the above statement implies

$$I_{zz} = I_{xx} + I_{yy}$$

$$\text{or } I_{33} = I_{11} + I_{22}$$

where I_{11} or I_{xx} , I_{22} or I_{yy} , I_{33} or I_{zz} are moment of inertia about x -axis, y -axis and z -axis respectively.

Proof Choosing z -axis as a perpendicular axis to the lamina rigid body, we have

$$I_{zz} = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i d_i^2$$

where d_i is perpendicular distance of

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the i th particle, in the plane, from the z -axis. In xy -plane, we have

$$d_i^2 = x_i^2 + y_i^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_{zz} &= \sum m_i (x_i^2 + y_i^2) \\ &= \sum m_i x_i^2 + \sum m_i y_i^2 \\ &= I_{yy} + I_{xx} \end{aligned}$$

$$I_{zz} = I_{xx} + I_{yy} \quad \text{proved}$$

Since x_i = perpendicular from the i th particle to y -axis, and

y_i = perpendicular from the i th particle to x -axis.

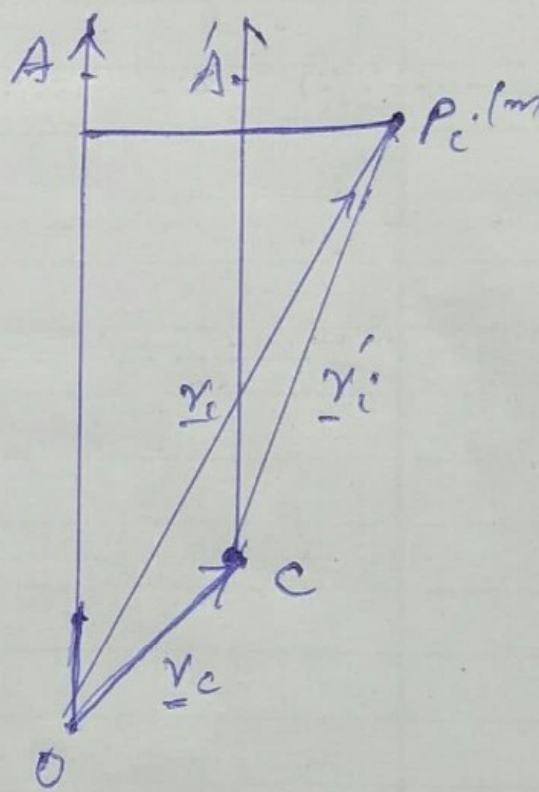
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Parallel axes Theorem 2-

The moment of inertia of a rigid body about an axis ~~is~~ is equal to the sum of moment of inertia about a parallel axis through the centroid and the moment of inertia due to total mass placed at the centroid (moment of inertia of the centroid)

Proof

If I denotes moment of inertia about a given axis \vec{OA} and d_i is \perp distance of the i th particle from the axis \vec{OA} , then by def.



$$I = \sum m_i d_i^2 = \sum m_i |\hat{e} \times \underline{r}_i|^2 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

where \hat{e} is unit vector in the direction of the axis \vec{OA} .

Let C is centroid of the rigid body with \underline{r}_c as position vector, draw an axis $\vec{CA'}$ parallel to \vec{OA} .

Let \underline{r}_i is position vector of P_i with respect to C , then

$$\underline{r}_i = \underline{r}_c + \underline{r}'_i \quad (2)$$

By (1) and (2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \sum m_i (\hat{e} \times (\underline{r}_c + \underline{r}'_i))^2 \\ &= \sum m_i (\hat{e} \times \underline{r}_c + \hat{e} \times \underline{r}'_i)^2 \\ &= \sum m_i ((\hat{e} \times \underline{r}_c)^2 + (\hat{e} \times \underline{r}'_i)^2 + 2(\hat{e} \times \underline{r}_c) \cdot (\hat{e} \times \underline{r}'_i)) \\ &= \sum m_i (\hat{e} \times \underline{r}_c)^2 + \sum m_i (\hat{e} \times \underline{r}'_i)^2 \\ &\quad + 2(\hat{e} \times \underline{r}_c) \cdot \sum m_i (\hat{e} \times \underline{r}'_i) \\ &= \sum m_i d_c^2 + \sum m_i d_i'^2 + 2(\hat{e} \times \underline{r}_c) \cdot (\hat{e} \times \sum m_i \underline{r}'_i) \\ &= \sum m_i d_c^2 + \sum m_i d_i'^2 + 0 \quad \because \sum m_i \underline{r}'_i = 0 \text{ for C.M.} \\ &= (\sum m_i) d_c^2 + \sum m_i d_i'^2 \\ &= M d_c^2 + I' \\ &= I_c + I' \end{aligned}$$

where I_c is moment of inertia of the centroid (whole mass) and I' is moment of inertia of the system of particles about new parallel axis

